

Kellie Salter

Year of Call: 2019
Email Address: kellie.salter@3pb.co.uk
Telephone: 01202 292102

Overview

Family barrister Kellie Salter joined chambers in 2022 having completed her pupillage with another set on the south coast of England.

Kellie is a member of the family group at 3PB with a busy practice focused on family law, including care, private family and Court of Protection case work. She has provided representation within proceedings involving non-accidental injury, sexual harm and allegations of parental alienation at fact-finding and final hearings.

Kellie has a passion for working with parents with vulnerabilities such as learning disabilities and Autism and is adept at managing challenging conversations with clients using a sensitive and tailored approach. She is frequently commended by clients for her strong negotiation skills and tactics. She has been noted to have a calm and focused manner in her client care and is often instructed to represent clients that need a clear and straight-forward approach within conference.

Prior to her career at the Bar, Kellie was a social worker and held various roles in Children's and Adults' social care spanning 20 years. Kellie draws on this experience when representing parties within all areas of her practice.

During her time in social care work, Kellie spent time leading a service for adults with Autism, managing a drug and alcohol and mental health inclusion service and several social work teams for adults with learning disabilities. Her earlier experience involved children protection work and education social work prior to specialising in social work with adults with learning disabilities. This involved working with younger adults with Education, Health and Care plans moving into Adults' services and she was involved with SEND tribunals.

Kellie trained in ABE investigation work and attended Mental Health Review Tribunals for those with a forensic history. She gained experience with Court of Protection social work and now draws on this when representing clients within health and welfare focused proceedings.

Whilst studying part-time for the Bar, Kellie worked full-time as a manager within Adults' Social Care. She moved from managing social work teams into a commissioning-focused role which used project work to develop housing and support options for vulnerable adults. She has a good understanding of the realities of local authority operations.

Kellie received a major scholarship award whilst studying for the Bar, the Diplock Scholarship which is given to non-law degree students to assist with their studying. She was nominated for the Western Circuit Advocacy prize and Ede and Ravenscroft awards whilst completing the BPTC. Kellie is enthusiastic about promoting diversity at the Bar, and has provided open and honest talks to students about her journey to the Bar.

Kellie is involved with a Maternal Mental Health group in Dorset, which is focused on developing support services and a pathway for parents experiencing separation from their child. She successfully completed the Advocacy and the Vulnerable national training programme.

Kellie also provides training and advice to local authorities and has been invited to speak at conferences and events in relation to her practice areas. She is a trained pupil supervisor.

Outside work, Kellie can often be found outside - gardening or walking and spending time with friends and family.

Recommendations

'I am delighted when her clerks say she is free for any of my matters. She may be junior, but that does not hold her back. Her knowledge and approach to cases are phenomenal. She has dealt with some really tricky cases for me, but nothing fazes her. Clients love her!'
Legal 500 2027/Family: children and domestic abuse/Rising Star/Western Circuit

'Kellie is very organised and well prepared for every hearing. A particular strength is her compassion and interpersonal skills, which helps clients feel supported throughout the court day and in particular Kellie is very good with vulnerable clients with issues such as victims of domestic abuse or mental health difficulties.'
Legal 500 2026/Family: children and domestic abuse/Rising Star/Western Circuit

Kellie Salter –3PB 'Kellie demonstrates great technical knowledge of the relevant law and procedures, combined with an ability to quickly and accurately understand issues from the client's perspective.'
Legal 500 2025/Family: children and domestic violence/Rising Star/Western Circuit

'I want to say how thankful I am for Kellie. In court, when I felt at my most vulnerable, she helped me stay grounded and showed such kindness. It made a huge difference.' - **Lay client, 2026**

'Thank you for absolutely everything, for being part of my journey. I 100% trusted Kellie from the offset and knew she would get me the outcome I wanted. Thank you for your patience, advice and understanding of my learning difficulties. A massive thank you again for everything.' - **Lay client, May 2025**

"My god Kellie was amazing she had so much fight in her and understood everything about myself down to a T!!" **- Lay client, August 2024**

"My many thanks' to Kellie for Friday she was absolute amazing!!" **- Lay client, August 2024**

"Kellie was extremely personable and immediately put my client at ease. She explained the purpose of the hearing to the client in layman's terms and made sure the client understood the options available to her. She was well prepared and showed a good knowledge of the case. When we went in to discuss matters with the Respondent, who was a litigant in person, she was extremely calm and showed compassion and empathy which was lovely to see. She was extremely patient with the Respondent but also firm in explaining our client's position. She put forward our client's position before the Judge in a well prepared and precise manner and repeated the point of proportionality if we could not reach a final decision and she responded to the Judge's questions really well.

She sent me a well prepared note after the hearing and also drafted and filed the Order within a short space of time. I would have absolutely no hesitation in using Kellie again for similar cases as she was a perfect fit for this case." **Instructing solicitor, May 2024**

"Kellie Salter was worth her weight in gold, she kept us calm and reassured all the way through. She helped us come to decisions regarding contact etc, again calmly and was just genuinely fantastic, highly recommended!" - **Lay client, April 2024**

"I can not thank you enough for yesterday's result, you got the right result for (my son) at the end of the day" - **Lay client, December 2023**

A solicitor - Client said you were absolutely fantastic, and asked for me to let you know how grateful she is to you" - **Instructing solicitor, December 2023**

"Client was really pleased with you representing her and has asked me to book you again" – **Instructing solicitor, October 2023**

"Kellie was fantastic. She really dialled into what is going on and got the best outcome for everyone" – **Instructing solicitor, August 2023**

"I cannot thank you enough for your professionalism and your expertise today in court. I felt comfortable in an unusual and distressing environment and this was all down to you" – **Lay client, May 2023**

"My grateful thanks to Kelly for all the exceptional work she has put in for our client." - **Instructing solicitor**

Academic qualifications

- BPTC, University of the West of England
- Graduate Diploma in Law, University of Exeter
- Graduate Diploma, Leadership and Management in health and social care, Bournemouth University

Scholarships

- Diplock Scholarship, Middle Temple

Professional bodies

- Member of Middle Temple

Expertise

Family

Kellie Salter has a busy private and public children practice and regularly acts for both applicants and respondents, including rule 16.4 Guardians and Grandparents. She has experience of working with cases involving:

- Domestic Abuse
- Parents with mental health difficulties including personality disorder and offending history
- Parents with learning disabilities
- Substance misuse
- Relocation
- Special Guardianship
- Parental disputes involving children with special educational needs

Cases of note:

- Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole v M & Others [2023] EWFC 140

Recent cases:

- Re B – Represented a young Father in a case of non-accidental injury where proceedings resulted in the child returning to the parents' care.
- Re H – Kellie represented a Mother with ADHD and mental health difficulties throughout care proceedings, which saw her children remain in her care throughout and proceedings concluded with supervision orders at the request of the Mother.
- Re W – Kellie represented a Mother with learning disabilities and complex mental health presentation at a final hearing where contact following adoption was a live issue.
- Re C – On behalf of a Father in care proceedings where his sons were involved in county lines.
- Re A – Kellie represented a Mother in lengthy private law and care proceedings which led to findings of sexual abuse and coercive and controlling behaviour against the Father.
- Re H – Kellie represented a parent with a sexual offending history in care proceedings. Following several sexual harm risk assessments a plan was achieved to spend increasing supervised time with the children.
- Re K – On behalf of the child in care proceedings involving alleged physical harm against the child, where findings were made that physical harm had been caused by a parent.
- R v B – Represented a Mother at a fact-finding hearing in private law proceedings where findings were made of rape and coercive and controlling behaviour against the Father.

Kellie will also undertake Court of Protection work and is familiar with such work from her background in Social Work and welcomes instructions in that regard.

Court of Protection

Kellie came to the bar following a 20-year career in Social Work, working in both Children's and Adult's services as a Social Worker but also in management roles. She has a particular interest in working with vulnerable clients, including older adults and adults with learning disabilities. She has held roles requiring her to make and oversee applications through the Court of Protection (COP) process on behalf of Local Authorities.

As a barrister, Kellie has undertaken inherent jurisdiction work for those aged under 18, property and affairs and health and welfare related COP applications. Having managed Social Work teams, she is keen to develop her practice in relation to decision-making as to aspects of individuals' lives such as where clients should live or how they should best be supported within the realms of the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

Kellie's background leads her to approach cases with sensitivity and a willingness to secure the best outcome for her client. She is skilled at being able to support clients to identify solutions at round table meetings so that matters can where possible be resolved between parties without requiring the intervention of the court.